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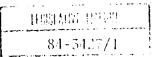
September 7, 1984

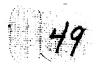
United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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The Honorable William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

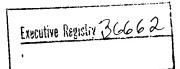
Dear Bill:

On September 1, 1984, a Hughes 500 helicopter was reported shot down near the Nicaraguan village of Santa Clara, approximately 10 kilometers inside the northern province of Nueva Segovia. Press accounts of this incident state that all three persons aboard the helicopter were killed, and that two of the three were Americans. The two Americans were subsequently identified as Dana H. Parker of Huntsville, Alabama, and James P. Powell, III, from Memphis Tennessee.

According to news reports, the two Americans were part of a seven member team of Alabama-based Vietnam veterans who went to Central America several weeks ago to "give advance training" to U.S.-backed rebels fighting the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. The pilot of the aircraft in which they were flying was a member of the rebel group, and the aircraft was reportedly supplied by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). These reports went on to say that the Administration has denied the two men or their American companions were connected to the U.S. Government.

In view of the questions that have been publicly raised regarding this incident, we would like to invite you or your representative to appear at a closed session of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 1984, in Room S-407 of the Capitol. In the event that this room is unavailable, we will meet in Room 222 of the Senate Russell Office Building.

We hope that you or your representative will be prepared to brief the Committee concerning any possible contact or involvement of your organization or personnel with those Americans who participated in events which culminated in the incident on September 1st. In particular, we would be interested to know of any information which you may have had in advance of the attack regarding these Americans,



The Honorable William J. Casey Page Two September 7, 1984

their presence in Honduras, their contacts with U.S. officials, their use of joint U.S./Honduran facilities, their connections with the rebels and their purpose in being in that area. Finally, the Committee would be interested to know what practices and procedures your organization uses in its contacts with private American citizens involved in such activities in Central America or elsewhere.

If you have any questions regarding this meeting, please feel free to get in touch with us, or have your staff call Rob Simmons, Staff Direct of at 224-1700.

Sincerely

Barry Goldwater

Chairman

Daniel Patrick Moynihan Vice Chairman

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